DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with Joseph Oriti on 10 December 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

19.   (Currently Amended) A computer system that includes a computer-
readable storage medium having stored thereon program modules for processing
runtime functions, the program modules comprising:

a compiler that compiles source code files to produce a plurality of object files,
wherein each of the plurality of <u>object</u> files is produced by the compiler with an identifier
that operates as a marker which when placed in a set condition provides an indication
that the object file contains a list of valid target addresses for use in implementing
runtime protection;

<u>a processor that:</u>

<u>concludes that a first object file has no valid target addresses pertaining to</u>
<u>runtime functionality, upon detecting the presence of the identifier in the</u>
<u>first object file, and the absence of a runtime section of code in the first</u>
<u>object file;</u>

<u>concludes that a second object file has a list of valid target addresses</u>
<u>pertaining to runtime functionality, upon detecting that the identifier in the</u>

second object file is present and has been asserted, and that a runtime
section of code is present in the second object file; and

a ~~processor that~~ receives a call to a runtime function upon execution of the
executable code of the second object file; and

a dispatcher system that determines associated data from the call to the runtime
function, determines a target address from the associated data, and if the target
address is found on the list of valid target addresses then executes the runtime function.

Allowable Subject Matter

1.   Claims 1, 2, 6, 19, 20, 23, 28, 37-40 and 45-51 are allowed.

2.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per claims 1 and 19: it was not found to be taught in the prior art

"…compiling source code files to produce a plurality of object files, each of which is

marked with an identifier for indicating that executable code generated from each of the

plurality of object files supports runtime protection; concluding that a first object file has

no valid target addresses pertaining to runtime functionality, upon detecting: a) the

presence of the identifier in the first object file, and b) the absence of a runtime section

of code in the first object file; concluding that a second object file has a list of valid

target addresses pertaining to runtime functionality, upon detecting: a) that the identifier

in the second object file is present and has been asserted, and b) that a runtime section

of code is present in the second object file…"

Therefore the examiner notes a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made would have not been motivated to combine the

limitations/missing features with Lueh. The examiner notes the combination of missing

features and the other limitation(s) found in the independent claim(s) make the invention

novel and unobvious over the cited prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later

than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to KARI L. SCHMIDT whose telephone number is (571)

270-1385. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday: 8:30am -

5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Edan Orgad can be reached on 571-272-7884. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kari L Schmidt/
Examiner, Art Unit 2439

/Edan Orgad/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2439